

A
LETTER
FROM A
GENTLEMAN at *Glasgow*
TO HIS
FRIEND in *LONDON*.

Containing,
An Impartial History of the late Tumults at *Glasgow*, on the Commencement of the Malt Tax.

*Quam Verissime potero, paucis absolvam :
eoque magis, quod mihi a spe, metu, Partibus Reipublicæ animus liber est. Salust.*

— *Queque ipse miserrima vidi. Virg.*

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®

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GENTLEMAN AT GLASGOW

TO HIS

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My dear Sir,
I have the pleasure to inform you that
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of the 10th inst.

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FROM A
Gentleman at *Glasgow*, &c.

S I R, *Glasgow, July 30, 1725.*



DON'T doubt but you will be surpriz'd that I have not before this Time sent you an exact Account of the late Tumults in this City ; but I know you'll cease to wonder, when I inform you, that all possible Methods have been taken by some People among us, to hinder the transmitting any true Account of that unlucky Affair to *London*. And 'tis

with no small Difficulty, that even at this distance of Time I can send you this Letter. Almost all Letters from this City have been open'd at the Post-Office at *Edinburgh*, and those of them destroyed that endeavour'd to disabuse the World, by giving a faithful History of that melancholy Affair. By these Methods you at *London* have been kept entirely in Ignorance of the whole Matter, except what you got in your News Papers. In which the Story was most grossly misrepresented, and calculated to support the Credit of those partial and frightful Accounts with which some Persons had found it their Interest to abuse our Superiors. Besides, Sir, we have not had any *London* News Papers in our Coffee-houses for these Five Weeks past, which it would seem, have been industriously kept from us, that we might not know the frightful Stories that were going about of us.

I shall therefore give you a short and impartial History of our late Tumults, without Regard to any Party but that of Truth. I can assure you, that the Matters of Fact are taken from the Depositions and Declarations of many Witnesses of the best Character; and I defy the whole World to disprove any material Circumstance in the whole Narration.

On the 23d Day of *June* last, when the new Malt Tax Act for *Scotland* commenced, an inconsiderable Number of disorderly Persons appear'd in the Streets arm'd with Clubs
and

and Staffs. These Rioters were mostly made up of Women and Boys, and these the very Scum of the whole City. The Lord Provost, who is the same with your Mayor in *England*, order'd some of the Citizens, assisted by the Town Officers, or City Serjeants, to quash and disperse this disorderly Rout, which was soon put in Execution, and the City, for that Night, restor'd again to its usual Quiet and Tranquillity.

On the 24th, there was scarce any Appearance of a Mob before Night. 'Tis true indeed, that about Six a Clock at Night, the Arrival of Two Companies of *Delorain's* Regiment of Foot, drew a considerable Concourse of People into the Streets. But this being usual on such Occasions, gave the Provost no manner of Apprehension of a Riot. Upon the Arrival of His Majesty's Forces, the Provost immediately gave Orders to fit up the Guard-house, that they might take Possession of it that very Night. But he was a little after inform'd, that the Persons he had sent were dispossest'd, the Doors of the Guard-house lock'd, and the keys carried off. Upon this unexpected News, he immediately dispatch'd the City Serjeants to break open the Doors: But the furious Mob assaulted them in a most violent manner, bruised them, and beat them off.

The Provost conceiving a just Indignation at this Contempt of his Authority, went immediately

diately from the Town-house to see his own Orders put in Execution. But, on his way, he was inform'd, that the Number of the Rioters was greatly increased, and that they swore violently, that they would pull him in pieces, if he came thither to attempt to give the Soldiery Possession of the Guard. Therefore, upon a Consultation held with some of the most reputable Gentlemen of the City, it was thought most advisable, in order to quiet the Minds of the Populace (who thought that these Troops had come to support the levying of the Malt Tax) that the Soldiers should be sent to Quarters that Night, without keeping Guard; and that the Care of the City should be committed to a Guard of the Citizens as usual. The Commanding Officer, being appriz'd of this Resolution, seem'd highly to approve it; and said, that his Men were fatigued with a very long March, and that he expected to be reinforc'd next Day with Two other Companies. Upon this, the Town Guard was order'd to assemble at the ordinary Time, which is between Ten and Eleven a Clock at Night.

Finding every body pleas'd with this Resolution, the Provost and Mr. *Campbell* of *Blythwood*, the only other Justice of Peace that was then in Town, with some others of the most eminent Citizens, went to the Town-house, where they stay'd for some Time. And finding there was no Appearance of any other

other Disorder, they went all together to a Tavern near the Town-house. At the same time the Provost left Orders to the City Sergeants to give him Notice of the least Appearance of any Mob.

A little after Ten, this Company at the Tavern was surpriz'd with the unexpected News that the Mob was attempting to break into the House of Mr. *Campbell* of *Shawfield*, our Representative in Parliament, against whom they were greatly exasperated, alledging, that he had been a great Promoter in Parliament of the Malt Tax. As this was extremely surprizing to the Provost, so immediately, with all Expedition, he, and the Gentlemen that were with him, made the best of their way to Mr. *Campbell's* House, which is situated at one of the Extremities of the Town, and of which the Mob had only then broken a few Glass Panes in the Windows. There the Provost and the other Justice of Peace endeavour'd, by interposing their Authority, to disperse this riotous Assembly; and partly by Intreaties, and partly by Threats, prevail'd on them to retire. Mean while, as they were going off, they were reinforc'd by a considerable Number of Rioters from all Quarters of the City: They were also join'd by no small Numbers from the nearest Places of the Country.

The Mob being thus greatly increased, and not a little animated with Hopes of a
rich

rich Plunder, return'd, and assailed Mr. *Campbell's* House again with most outrageous Violence. The Provost and the other Justice of Peace did all that was possible for Men to do, to appease the Fury of the Plunderers; sometimes they endeavour'd, by interposing their Authority, to oblige them to desist from their villainous Design; and sometimes by Intreaties and Caresles, they attempted to cajole them into Peace. But their Fury was not in the least allay'd by these prudent Measures, they became still more violent, knock'd down the City Serjeants, some of whom were grievously wounded; insulted the Provost, and the Gentlemen that were with him, and threatned to tear them peacemeal if they did not retire.

The Provost, therefore, and the Company that was with him, seeing themselves in manifest Danger of their Lives, and finding it impossible to stop the Fury of the Rioters, were obliged to leave the Gentleman's House to the Rage of the furious Robbers. Tho' the Provost did not cause the Proclamation against Riots to be read, which was impossible for him to do, without greatly endangering his own Life, and the Lives of those that were with him; yet in the Words of the Act, and under the Penalty therein contain'd, he commanded them to be gone.

While Things were in this Confusion, and the Provost was thinking to call for the Assistance

Assistance of His Majesty's Forces, a Serjeant, dispatch'd by the Commanding Officer, came to the Provost, offering him the Assistance of the Soldiery. But, upon a Consultation held with some Gentlemen of the best Sense in Town, it was thought not adviseable to call for the Forces, considering that the Mob were now grown very numerous and outrageous, and were in full Possession of the House; that the greatest part of the Soldiers were in Bed, as the Provost was inform'd by the Serjeant, that they could not be called together in time but by Beat of Drum, and that they might be knock'd on the head by the Rioters upon the first News of their drawing together, as they were coming singly, or in small Numbers along in the Streets. These weighty Reasons induced the Provost to think, that it would be imprudent, in such Circumstances, to endanger His Majesty's Troops. And the ordinary Town Guard, which (as you heard before) was order'd to assemble between Ten and Eleven, was hindred from obeying these Orders, by being attack'd (as some of themselves inform'd me) by the Mob, as they were coming along with their Arms to the Guard-house.

Thus all Authority was wrested out of the Magistrates Hands by the villainous Mob, and Mr. Campbell's House most barbarously

barously pillaged. A great many of the Villains, justly dreading the Punishment they deserv'd, went off before Morning, and were seen next Day going thro' the Country, on their way, as 'twas thought, to some Port for *Ireland*. The greatest part of the Furniture of the House was saved by Mr. *Campbell's* Friends, who found a way to carry off a great many of the most valuable Things.

The News of this Barbarity reaching the Ears of the Citizens, fill'd them with Shame and Confusion, every body conceiving a just Indignation at those who had been Accomplices in such a Robbery. And I can assure you, that these Rioters were such a Rascally Scum, that some honest People, that shuffled themselves in among them in order to discover them, that they might be punished, scarce knew one of them : And 'tis confidently reported, that there was not one who has the *Freedom of the City*, that had any Hand in plundering the House, or was concern'd in the Tumults.

On the 25th in the Morning, the Provost made himself Master of the Keys of the Guard-house, and desired the Commanding Officer to have his Troops ready to take possession of it as soon as possible. And mean while, he call'd together a considerable Number of the principal Inhabitants,
and

and went to Mr. *Campbell's* House, and caused all the Doors and Entries to be shut up, that it might be secured from any further Attacks. This Business dispatch'd, the Provost gave Possession of the Guard to the two Companies of Foot, of whom one Captain *Busbell* was the Commanding Officer. And immediately after, he ordered Twenty Men out of each of the Ten Companies of Train-bands to assemble at the Town-house, against Three a Clock in the Afternoon, that they might assist in suppressing any Tumult that might happen. About Two a Clock, an inconsiderable Number of riotous Persons, consisting mostly of Women and Boys, appear'd near the Town-house; but they were soon dispersed by the Provost, with the Assistance of some of the Citizens that were about him. B---// seeing from the Guard the Tumult at the Town-house, immediately drew out his Men, and form'd them into an Hollow-square, fronting to Four Streets that center at the Guard-house. Upon his thus drawing up the Soldiers, a considerable Number of Women and Boys flock'd about them, gazing at this Disposition of the Troops, that was pretty unusual to them. There were, indeed, some Stones thrown at the Soldiers by the Boys, which did little or no Hurt. The Captain, who has the Character of a very passionate Man,

was exceedingly enraged, and swore violently, that he would order his Men to fire, if one single Stone more was thrown, tho' he should be hang'd for it : And some few more Stones being thrown, he, without reading the Proclamation against Riots, without giving Time to the Crowd to separate, as the Law directs, when not one of his Men was wounded, most cruelly gave Orders to his Men to fire on the Crowd; for I cannot call this a Mob, unless you call a few foolish Boys so.

By this first fire, Two Men were kill'd dead on the Spot that were not in the Crowd, but were at a considerable Distance from the Guard-house, and altogether innocent. The Captain denies this, and says, That he fired at first only with Powder ; but the contrary is prov'd by the Depositions of most credible Witnesses, who saw the Men fall.

After this, the Captain seem'd to be quite deprived of Reason, he was so transported with Rage, that he behaved more like a Fury than with that Calmness and Sedateness that is so necessary to an Officer who is entrusted with the Command of Troops at such a Juncture : For he order'd the Soldiers to continue firing towards the Four Streets, tho' the greatest part of the Crowd had separated upon the first fire ; and from
some

some of the Streets, there had not one single Stone been thrown from the beginning.

Behold now, Sir, a most horrid and barbarous Scene! Every one was fill'd with a pannick Fear, and nothing was heard in the Streets but the Howlings and Shrieks of Women and Children, and the Cries and Groans of the Dying and Wounded; while the brutal Officer, with untrelenting Fury, still continued firing in the midst of a very populous City. When the News of this Barbarity reach'd the other parts of the City that were not in the view of this bloody Scene, it occasion'd the greatest Horror and Confusion, every body thinking, that it might be the Fate of some of their Friends or Relations to perish or be wounded by such barbarous Rashness, especially when they were inform'd, that no sooner did the Soldiers see any Persons appear in the Streets, than they fired upon them, tho' some of them were going about their lawful Business, and hardly knew of any Tumult; and that others had suffer'd, who had only come to know the Occasion of this firing.

——— *Quis talia fando*
Myrmidonum Dolopumve aut duri miles U-
(hyssei
Temperet a Lacrymis ———

The

The Provost, being thunder-struck with the News of this unexpected firing, immediately dispatch'd a Gentleman to the Captain, to tell him, that he was very much concern'd and surpriz'd at his Rashness; that he ought to have consulted with him before he had proceeded to so cruel an Action. At the same time, the Gentleman desired the Captain not to fire any more, assuring him withal, that a considerable Number of Citizens should be sent to his Assistance, if he had any Apprehensions of his being in danger. He accordingly promised to give over firing till the Gentleman should return: But, notwithstanding this Promise, the Soldiers continued to fire.

When the Gentleman return'd to the Provost, he found him beset by a most formidable Mob, who, rushing upon him, demanded the Reason of this firing, and loudly complaining, that so many of their innocent Fellow-Citizens had been thus barbarously destroy'd. The Provost did all he could to appease the Fury of the enraged Multitude, both by Threatnings and smooth Words; but all was in vain: They were so incensed, that they threw off all Regard to Authority, broke open the Doors of the Town-house, in order to ring the Alarm Bell, and thereby to gather a Number of Citizens sufficient to oblige the savage
 Captain

Captain to give over this bloody Execution.

The Provost, justly thinking that he should not be able to appease an enraged Multitude, whom, with the highest Concern, he saw had but too just a Pretence to be incensed at B---ll's illegal Conduct, and which, he presum'd, would grow much more formidable upon ringing the Alarm Bell, dispatch'd again immediately the same Gentleman to the Officer with a Message; That he believ'd it was absolutely necessary, for the Safety of the King's Troops, and for quieting the present Tumult, which his rash Conduct had so much contributed to, for him and his Men to retire out of Town.

Upon this Message, B---ll, beginning now to see the Danger to which his hair-brain'd Conduct had expos'd him, thought fit to make a very hasty Retreat. And tho' there was scarce any body pursuing him, yet he continued to fire on the Streets, by which he did considerable Execution. Among others that were kill'd in the Retreat, was a beautiful young Lady, who was shot dead standing in a Window on the second Floor; and who, 'tis said, was just about to be married to a Gentleman, who had the Mortification to be with her in the same or the next Window, and saw her fall. One crazy old Woman was also
kill'd

kill'd on a Step, as she was crawling into an House; and another was shot under a Stair, whither she had fled for Shelter. There were in all Nine Persons kill'd, and Seventeen most dangerously wounded; tho' of all these, we are well assured, there were not above Two or Three that were suspected of being concern'd in the Tumults. And if the Soldiers and other Officers had not acted with greater Prudence and Moderation in this unlucky Affair than their Captain, 'tis probable, some Hundreds of His Majesty's innocent Subjects would have been sacrificed as Victims to the Rage and Fury of this hot-headed Officer; the Foundation of whose Resentment, was only because some Boys, forsooth, threw a few Stones at him and the Soldiers under his Command. A Serjeant, particularly, was seen several times to beat up a Firelock B---H had in his Hands, when he was about to fire: And many of the Soldiers fired up into the Air; and some did not fire at all.

Upon ringing the Alarm Bell, which the Provost could not at last prevent, a great Number of the meaner sort of the Citizens drew together, and pursued the Troops as they were flying; but they setting out a considerable time after the Soldiers, who march'd very hard, could not come up with them. They, indeed, made Two of the
Soldiers

Soldiers Prisoners, who thro' Sickness had fallen behind ; one of them was dismiss'd immediately after their Return to Town ; and the other, being wounded in the Head by the Friends and Relations of the Kill'd and Wounded, in the Heat of their Resentment and Fury, was carried to the Town-house, where all imaginable Care was taken of him, and in a few Days, being fully recover'd, he was likewise sent off and supplied with Money to carry him to *Edinburgh*.

Busbell, marching with all Expedition, stopp'd not till he arrived at *Dumbarton* Castle, not daring to retire to any open Place, lest the Country People, whom the News of his rash Conduct at *Glasgow* had greatly exasperated, might attack him, for the Report of this his horrid Execution flew immediately over all the Country. And here I must observe, that neither *Busbell* nor his Men were wounded, because they were able to march on foot in a few Hours to *Dumbarton*, which, by the Roads they took, is above Twelve Miles Distance from this City : Nor, indeed, did they offer to call for any Physician or Surgeon ; nor were they able to shew the least Bruise or Wound.

Betimes next Morning, *Busbell* sent off from the Castle one of his Subalterns for
C *Edinburgh*,

Edinburgh, with an Account of the Affair. Never was a Story more misrepresented ; every thing was said that might exaggerate the Numbers, Strength, and Rage of the Mob ; nothing was omitted that could tend to vindicate his Conduct ; in fine, he endeavour'd to shew, that what he had done was absolutely necessary for the Safety of the King's Troops.

This met with too easy a Belief from Persons whose Characters should at least have made them suspend that Belief, till they had made a further Enquiry into the Affair. And from this partial Account sent by *Busbell*, and from some others, whose Interest or Party-Humour prevail'd on them to disguise the Affair, an Article was printed at *Edinburgh* in the *Caldonian Mercury*, where the Facts were either untrue, or daub'd with all the false Colourings that could be laid on.

Our Magistrates, conceiving a just Indignation at the Malice of those who had caused that Article to be inserted in the *Mercury*, and being willing to do Justice to themselves and the City, sent an Account of the Affair to *Edinburgh*, that it might be also put in the News-Papers. This Account was not taken up on Hear-say, but every Circumstance in it attested by Witnesses of the best Credit and Reputation in Town.

But

But all Methods imaginable were used to hinder its being printed ; the Printers being threatned if they should print it, and the Hawkers and Booksellers if they should publish it. Is not this a glaring Instance of some People's Partiality ? And does not this create in every unbiass'd Person a shrewd Suspicion, that some Folks were conscious to themselves, that their rash and hasty Conduct would never bear the Light of the Truth ?

Not only was our own Country at first imposed upon, by the Misrepresentation of the Affair in the *Mercury* ; But Party Rage drove some People to that height of Presumption, as to abuse their Ex——s the R——ts, by the Accounts they sent them. Most frightful Accounts were printed in the *English* News-Papers, and from them the Story was propagated over all *Europe* ; and we were represented as the worst of Rebels.

Their Ex---s were very justly provok'd at us, considering we were represented to them as in an open State of Rebellion. They therefore immediately gave Orders to the General of His Majesty's Forces in *Scotland*, to march with a Number of Troops sufficient to reduce us. The General, as soon as the Troops could be drawn together, march'd with an Army of Thirteen or Fourteen Hun-

dred Men : He carried also along with him a Train of Artillery, consisting of Four Cannons, and Eight Coehorns, no doubt, to besiege *Glasgow*, an open Place, without Walls, or any other Fortification whatsoever. And so good Intelligence had this Commander of the Condition his Enemy was in, that, I'm well assured, he believed we had Cannons planted at the Gates of the City, and were resolv'd to oppose His Majesty's Troops ; at least he did not doubt but we were in Arms ; for when the Army was about Two Miles distance from the City, he sent a Letter to the Magistrates, requiring them to disarm the Inhabitants ; And when the Magistrates return'd him an Answer, That there were none in Arms, he had enough to do to believe them. His M——y's Ad——e came along with this Army, full of Resentment, no doubt, for our horrid Rebellion ; for some People had been so unjust as to abuse him also, and to cause him to believe, that People of the greatest Figure in Town had been concern'd in the Tumults, or at least had encouraged the Mob.

This Army was quarter'd in the City ; and the Cannons and Mortars were placed in the Middle of it, *in Terrorem* : Strong Guards, both of Horse and Foot, were kept ; Two Centinels on Horseback set at every

every Gate ; and Patroles went over the whole Town every Hour, both Day and Night : In short, no stricter Guards could have been kept, if *Hanibal* had been at the Gates. The Troops were employ'd in the Night-time in taking up about Thirty or Forty very mean Persons that were suspected Rioters : And a certain eminent Lawyer was busied all Day, in examining Witnesses upon Oath ; in which serious Affair, he was pleas'd sometimes to condescend so far as to be very merry, insomuch that he ask'd the Town-Clerk, if he could write ? and some Girls, if they were kiss'd at Mr. *Campbell's* House ? and when they answer'd, that they were not ; his Facetiousness was pleas'd to tell them, that 'it was a great pity, and that he would do it now. At other Times, he was so diligent an Enquirer as to ask some People, if ever they heard any body curse or reproach Mr. *Campbell*, whose House was pillaged ? and if they believed in their *Conscience*, that the Mob was designedly rais'd to hinder the levying the Malt Tax ?

The General, upon his Arrival in Town, sent Orders to *Bushell* and his Two Companies that had fled to *Dumbarton*, to march to *Glasgow*, which they did accordingly. And when he was told, that it was very provoking to the Inhabitants, that
this

this rash Officer, who had most illegally and barbarously shed the Blood of so many poor Innocents, should be allow'd to enter at Noon-day and triumph in those very Streets that were yet reeking with the Blood that he and his savage Companies had so cruelly spilt. The G——I was pleas'd to give this Answer, That His M——y's Troops must not be affronted. What ! must the King's innocent Subjects be cruelly destroy'd, who help to maintain these very Troops by their honest Industry, before his meanest Servants, and the Servants of these very Subjects, receive an imaginary Affront ? Must mercenary Soldiers stain our Streets with the Gore of the Inhabitants of the most loyal City in His Majesty's Dominions ? And must they be the Judges, Jury, and Executioners too ? And must all the Recompence we can have for these barbarous Violences, be to be insulted and triumph'd over by the very Mercenary too who did us the Mischief ; and be told by his Superior, from whose Justice we might have expected Redress, That the K——'s Troops must not be affronted ! at a Time when we might have hoped to have seen the barbarous Wretch laid in Irons, in order to answer for the Illegality of his Proceedings ! These, I am sure, are not the Sentiments of His Majesty, a Prince of so
much

much Goodness and Mercy, and whose Value for the Lives of his Subjects is equal to his other good Qualities.

When *Busbell* return'd to Town, he was defended, yea, even caress'd by some People out of Party Views : He was allow'd to walk openly in the Streets, and by his Presence to renew the melancholy Remembrance of that bloody Day in the Minds of the Friends and Relations of those whom he had savagely destroy'd. Yea, so inhumane and unrelenting was the cruel Man, as even to make a Jest of that Butchery, and to value himself upon that, as a glorious Campaign, which every Man, who is not void of all Humanity, would have not only been ashamed of, but remembered with Horror and Regret.

Things went on at this rate, when, as I am apt to believe, a certain Gentleman of the Law thought that the taking up a parcel of poor rascally People, was but a very indifferent Quarry ; therefore, he thought fit to commit all our Magistrates to their own Prison, as Aiders and Encouragers of the Mob, tho' there was not one of them in Town at the Time of the Riot, except the Provost, who did all that was possible for a Man to do : One of them was necessarily absent about his own lawful Affairs, at the Fair of *Pertb*, from which he had not been
once

once absent for these Thirty Years past; another was at *Edinburgh*, about some Law Affair, and had been absent for about Twelve or Fourteen Days before the Tumults happen'd; a third was married on the 25th of *June*, and, as the Lady lived several Miles distant from the City, he was necessarily obliged to be absent.

This Imprisoning of the Magistrates was a great *Coup d'Eclat*; and they were refused to be admitted to Bail; but next Day were carried in triumph thro' the Country, on their way to *Edinburgh*, under a strong Guard of Dragoons; and we were most prudently deprived of all Government at once. This Affair made a very great Noise; and People talk'd as freely of it. I shall not pretend to enter into a Dispute about the Legality of this Commitment, tho' all the Gentlemen here, that are skill'd in the Laws of their Country, censured it very much. And when the Matter came to be try'd before the Lords of the Justiciary, the Magistrates were released by the Judges, who were unanimous in their Opinion, that the least Colour of Law could not be shewn for it. There were great Rejoycings here upon their being released; and when they return'd, they were met at a considerable Distance from the City by a great
Number

Number of the principal Inhabitants on Horseback, and were received with the greatest Acclamations.

I have been obliged to give you this Narrative all at once, lest I should break the Thread of the Story, tho' some of the Facts happen'd some few Days after : Therefore, to return again. At the same time that the Magistrates were committed, all the Prisoners were dismiss'd, except about a Dozen Boys, Four poor naked Women, and as many Men, who were order'd to be carry'd Prisoners to *Edinburgh* ; the General appointing *Busbell* and his Two Companies to be their Guard : And so sweet is Revenge and Cruelty to that Man, that he, went to the Prison, and assisted in tying the Prisoners himself. They were brought out, in order to be carried to *Edinburgh*, at the same time that the Magistrates were committed ; which was so indiscreetly aggravating, as if they would be thought to court the Town's rising in Tumults, that they might have some better Handle against a City, that has done more for the Preservation of His Majesty's Government, than a Hundred such little imperious haughty Men in Office, as a certain Lawyer, giddy with his new Preferment, were ever capable to do.

A great part of the Prisoners were not so much as suspected of having been concern'd in the Riots, or of being Accomplices in pillaging Mr. *Campbell's* House ; but the mighty Crime that was laid to their Charge, was, that they had pursu'd *Busbell* and his Companies in their Retreat out of Town. I am not so well skill'd in the Law, as to know against what Statute they offended, who pursued the Murderers in order to apprehend them, that they might be brought to Justice ; this I leave to the Gentleman of the long Robe ; and that they intended no Violences, tho' so much provok'd, is evident by the Usage the Two Souldiers received, who fell into their Hands and were dismiss'd. There is certainly no Reason in the World, why Soldiers may murder His Majesty's Subjects, and that then it must be a Crime, a mighty Crime ! to endeavour to bring these Soldiers to a Tryal. These poor People could not but be exceedingly mov'd, when they saw the pale Faces and ghastly Looks of the Dead, and heard the doleful piercing Groans of their dying Friends and Relations ; And could it then be a Crime, no less than Capital, to pursue the Murderers ? These, I am sure, are not, these cannot be the Laws of this, or any other well regulated Society,

In

In some late Reigns, before the happy Revolution, we were govern'd by a Military Power, and Soldiers were left at liberty to commit all manner of Mischiefs ; but, God be thank'd, the Scene is changed : We have a just and gracious King upon the Throne ; we have a noble Constitution ; we have a just and wise Parliament, who are the Patrons and Bulwarks, not only of our own Liberties, but also the Supporters of the Distress'd in most Places in *Europe*. Party Rage may drive on things for a while ; but our Laws will at length triumph over those that endeavour to cover some enormous Offenders, who have delighted to oppress the Innocent ; and as they will be unpopular, yea, hated in their own Country, so the only Reward they will receive, will be His Majesty's Displeasure, & *in hoc fausto omine desinam*.

I am, &c.

F I N I S.

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lighted to oppress the Innocent; and as
they will be impossible, you, banish in their
own Country, to the only Reward they
will receive, will be the Majesty's Displea-
sure, & in due time's execution.

I am, Sir,

F I N I S